

CLAIMS

1. A material having the ability to reduce organ mass, the material being obtainable by:

collecting ovarian venous blood from a female mammal;
preparing ovarian venous plasma from the blood; and
at least partially purifying said material from the plasma.

2. A material according to claim 1, wherein the purifying comprises obtaining the 10-30 kD fraction.

3. A material according to claim 1, wherein the purifying comprises obtaining the 10-20 kD fraction.

4. A material according to claim 3, wherein the purifying additionally comprises ion exchange chromatography, and collecting the fraction eluted in 0.1-0.2 M NaCl.

5. A material according to claim 1, wherein the purifying comprises the following protocol:

plasma cleared by centrifugation;
cleared plasma spun to give a nominal 0-30 kD fraction;
nominal 0-30 kD fraction spun to give a nominal 10-30 kD sub-fraction;
nominal 10-30 kD sub-fraction concentrated and gel-filtered to give a nominal 10-20 kD sub-fraction;
nominal 10-20 kD sub-fraction repeatedly concentrated and buffer-diluted, applied to an ion exchange column eluted with a gradient of 0-0.3 M NaCl; and
eluate divided into 0-0.1 M, 0.1-0.2 M and 0.2-0.3 M NaCl ion exchange fractions.

6. A material according to any preceding claim, wherein the mammal is a sheep.

7. A material according to any preceding claim, for therapeutic use.

8. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a material according to any of claims 1 to 6 and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient or carrier.

9. Use of a material according to any of claims 1 to 6, for the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of organ or tissue hypertrophy.

add A3
add C17

005544-0760